

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): A ~~high-dielectric~~ dielectric material comprising a sintered body of ~~[[a]] rare-earth sulfide powder~~, the ~~high-dielectric material~~ rare-earth sulfide powder having a crystal structure of tetragonal β type, a chemical composition represented by Ln_2S_3 (where Ln represents a rare-earth metal), a frequency domain within the range of 0.5 kHz to 1,000 kHz, and a value of relative dielectric constant of more than 1,000 at room temperature.

2. (Currently amended): The ~~high-dielectric~~ dielectric material according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the rare earth ~~[[is]] comprises~~ at least one of lanthanum (La), praseodymium (Pr), cerium (Ce), and neodymium (Nd).

3. (Currently amended): ~~A high-dielectric~~ The dielectric material according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2, characterized in that~~ wherein platinum is added to the rare-earth sulfide powder to prevent a crystal structure of β -type sesquisulfide from being inverted to γ type at a high temperature.

4. (Currently amended): ~~A capacitor characterized by comprising the high-dielectric~~ The dielectric material according to ~~any one of Claim 1 to Claim 3, wherein the dielectric material is~~ included in a capacitor.